

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3278

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 7481

EXDIS

FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS GOV. HOLTON AND NEA ATHERTON FROM
AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (INOUE, DANIEL K.)

SUBJ: CODEL INOUE

REF: A. STATE 273401

B. AMMAN 7480

1. FEEL IT INCOMBENT UPON ME TO BACK UP IN MORE RESTRICTIVE
DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL GENERALLY Milder MESSAGE SENT FROM HERE
(REFTEL B) OVER SHORT PERIOD OF TIME CODEL INOUE PLANS TO SPEND
IN AMMAN.

2. USUALLY MILD-MANNERED AND EXCEEDINGLY PLEASANT KING
HUSSEIN IS RARELY PERSONALLY CONCERNED WITH SLIGHTS TO JORDAN
AND OTHER EXAMPLES OF DIFFICULT TREATMENT. HOWEVER, THE THOUGHT
OF ASKING HIM TO MEET WITH A DELEGATION WHICH PLANS TO
SPEND ONLY FIVE HOURS AND TWENTY MINUTES IN JORDAN AND
TWO AND ONE-HALF TO FIVE AND ONE-HALF DAYS EACH IN
MOROCCO, EGYPT AND ISRAEL RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS.
LAST TIME WE TRIED THIS (BEFORE MY ARRIVAL) I AM INFORMED KING
ANSWERED BY SAYING "WHY DO THEY BOTHER?" AND WAS SERIOUSLY AND
PERSONALLY AFFRONTED. JORDANIANS HAVE CONSISTENTLY
URGED ME TO HAVE VISITORS SPEND MORE TIME HERE. WE PRETTY REG-
ULARLY GET LICK-AND-A-PROMISE VISITS FROM AMERICANS PASSING
THROUGH WHO FIND IT MORE INTERESTING AND MORE PROFITABLE
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TO CAMP FOR LONGER PERIODS OF TIME ON NEIGHBORS.

THIS DOES NOT PARTICULARLY WORRY ME IF THE COMPARISON CARRIES WITH IT SOME SENSE OF REALITY. HOWEVER SINCE THIS PARTY IS TRAVELLING APPARENTLY IN USAF AIRCRAFT AND I PRESUME THERE IS NO MISTAKE IN REF CABLE (A) RE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE ON JANUARY 23, I MUST SERIOUSLY ASK YOU TO SEEK SOME RECONSIDERATION ON THE PART OF THE SENATORS AND/OR THE STAFF MEMBERS PLANNING THIS TRIP. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, AND WITHOUT LENGTHENING THE STAY, MY RECOMMENDATION TO THE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE THAT I NOT REPEAT NOT RAISE THIS QUESTION AND THAT WE ADVISE THE DELEGATION NOT TO COME TO JORDAN, IN SPITE OF ALL THAT THIS WOULD MEAN IN TERMS OF THE SERIOUS POTENTIAL IMPACT ON ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO THIS COUNTRY. AS IT IS, THERE ARE LESS THAN FOUR HOURS TO DO ANYTHING HERE AND THE PRESUMPTION THAT THE KING COULD BE AVAILABLE, EVEN AT THIS EARLY NOTICE, AT THE PRECISE TIME DESIRED BY THE COMMITTEE IS IN ITSELF AN ISSUE OF CONCERN TO ME.

3. FOR ALL THE ABOVE REASONS, I EARNESTLY SEEK YOUR PERSONAL REVIEW OF THIS QUESTION AND WHATEVER EFFORTS YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE TO EXTEND THE STAY OF THE DELEGATION HERE TO BARE MINIMUM AS RECOMMENDED IN PARA 3 OF REFTL (B).
PICKERING

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